

Christmas Day - 1857

Dear Mr May - I thank you for what you say of  
Donner. Your account of him is what I would  
anticipate from my knowledge of such men. I  
have since taken a contribution from Hennefy,  
who is a great Irish patriot, a great reformer, a great  
heart, and one of the meanest men of whom I  
have any knowledge.

I thank you for the 10 Liberator which completes one  
of my volumes.

What you say of the Irish don't trouble me. I know  
how angry such neighbours must make decent  
people. And yet it is odd that there is a much  
smaller proportion of atrocious crime in Ireland  
than in England - though the English are a more  
truthful & honest & far cleaner people. Crimes of  
violence & gross atrocity are much rarer here than  
in England. I would think my life safer here than  
there. But for Popery this would be one of the  
most prosperous countries in Europe.

I did not do to arrange. It was out of my power  
- and if it had it had been, I could not have been  
allowed to join the party - which was picked  
from a class to which I am not considered to  
belong. The destruction of slaves is almost  
unknown in this country & the destructions are  
amazingly fine.



I had a letter from Mr. Adams Geo. Thompson's  
son in law rather more cheerful than the  
report I heard and lately. They expected him  
soon hoped that his visit to India would  
prove remuneration in some way not  
indicated.

You have sent me some scales for the advo-  
cate which I am obliged to omit for want  
of space & sometimes because they are  
rather too much for the prevalent English  
opinion of American affairs. I always like  
what you send though you will keep me in mind  
-but I am sure you will not think bad of my  
doing for the best. I have always made it a  
rule not to put in any thing merely because  
it is offered. And in every number when  
finished I see I might have done better.  
I always have type lying over from numbers to  
numbers - & am invariably obliged to cancel a  
portion unused. Nothing that comes is more  
welcome than your own letters which you see  
I appropriate unmercifully. I like all you write  
and the spirit of which you always manifest.



While writing this, I came a letter from Miss Estlin  
enclosing £20 for the Advocate. She goes with  
her heart, and is an admirable woman.

I have a copy of <sup>the</sup> Chambers book & if I can  
find an opportunity, you shall have it. - I see  
from the letter that Jos. Edwards are named  
as the New York publishers. Perhaps they don't  
care to advertise it. I find that Am. A.S.  
books are ~~not~~ not fully done when got thro  
American houses in London - and that in  
their London lists of new Am. books, with  
Haverly books do not appear.

I am in hopes that hereafter you will get  
your accounts regularly. My son has taken  
your name into our list & every thing will  
pass through our books like a business  
account. I am short of money just now  
but in about 2 weeks I hope to send the  
remainder of the balance I owe you.

Who are the editors of the N. Y. Observer & of  
the Journal of Commerce

I had a letter from Mrs. Chapman recently  
asking me to take no notice of contributions to the  
Bazaar at present. This is why I have done



made no use of the information you  
supplied about time &c. Please say when the  
Ola we have come to land

Yours ever truly R D Webb